

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Georg REIF et al.

Serial No.:

09/540,028

Filed: March 31, 2000

Plastic Structural Element With Inserts

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Examiner: Group Art:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

July 27, 2000 (Date of Deposit)

Klaus P. Stoffe

July 27, 2000 Date of Signature

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first Office Action in the present application.

German reference 37 21 577 discloses a process for manufacturing plastic sockets with metal inserts.

German reference 41 17 167 discloses a metal insert which is laminated into a plastic part.

European reference 872 650 discloses a metal insert which is introduced into an opening in a plastic part while the plastic part is heated.

The above references are discussed in greater in the specification of the present application and the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to that discussion.

European reference 370 342 discloses a lightweight constructional element having plastic reinforcing ribs 3 that are connected to a basic body 1 at discreet points.

The present invention defines a specific plastic structural element with inserts which is not believed to be disclosed by the enclosed references.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

If any fees of charges are deemed required at this time in connection with the application, the same may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted, COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By:

Dated: July 27, 2000

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